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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Confirmation No ..... 3921  
Inventor ..... Bejjani et al.  
Group Art Unit ..... 1645  
Examiner .....  
Attorney's Docket No. .... SH1-0001US  
Title: Methods of Designing, Synthesizing, and Propagating Reference Nucleic  
Acids

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

To: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
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